

Typical Attachment

#### Newborn - 1 Year

- Makes eye contact to explore facial expressions of others
- Smiles at others talking to him / her
- Watches others to see their reactions

## 1 -2 Years

- Aware of themselves and their ability to make things happen
- Enjoys physical contact (cuddles, tickles)
- Likely to be afraid of strangers

### 2-3 Years

- Separates from parents in familiar surroundings without crying
- Adapts to new settings and people with some assistance
- Feels comfortable playing away from caregiver

## For More Info, Visit

www.earlychildhood.dhw.idaho.gov www.zerotothree.org www.understood.org

# **ATTACHMENT**



Attachment is the emotional bond between a child and parent / main caregiver.

It provides an early foundation for how relationships work and what the child can expect from others.

# When this bond is formed, children have:

- A base from which to control their negative emotions in stressful situations
- Ability to recognize their own feelings and those of others
- Confidence to explore the world around them







# Without Healthy Attachment, Children...

- May not turn to main caregiver when upset and may be unable to self-soothe at around 1 year old
- May avoid being touched or comforted
- May not smile or respond when interacting with an adult
- May not show affection towards parent or caregiver
- May not show distress in situations where you might expect her to
- May not play with toys or play interactive games with others
- May behave aggressively



## What You Can Do to Help

- Allow child to lead activities and follow his or her interests
- Play interactive games together such as Patty Cake
- Imitate child's vocalizations, expressions, and sounds